

R e m a r k s

Claims 1-8, 11-13, 20-25, and 27-33 stand rejected. Of these, claims 1-8, 20-25, and 31-33 have been canceled. The remaining rejected claims 11-13 and 27-30 have been amended to depend from claims already allowed or considered allowable except for matters of form

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 10, and 26 are deemed to contain patentable subject matter but are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims.

Claims 14-19 stand allowed.

Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 8. Claim 10 depends from claim 9. Claims 11-13 have been amended to depend from rewritten independent claim 9.

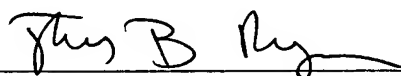
Claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 20 and intervening claims 24 and 25. Claims 27, 28, and 30 have been amended to depend from rewritten independent claim 26. Claim 29 depends from amended dependent claim 28.

The Examiner is thanked for the careful consideration given to each of the claims.

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In view of the above, claims 9-19, and 26-30 are believed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration, where necessary, and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested. For any questions on this response or the application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' representative at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas B. Ryan", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Thomas B. Ryan, Registration No. 31,659
HARTER, SECREST & EMERY LLP
1600 Bausch & Lomb Place
Rochester, New York 14604
Telephone: 585-231-1101
Fax: 585-232-2152

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